

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing media content to a subscriber, the method comprising:
5 b receiving a request for the transmission of the digitized content from the subscriber;
retrieving the requested content from a content source;
combining the requested content with encoded information identifying the requesting
subscriber to provide modified content; and
transmitting the modified content to the subscriber,
10 wherein the encoded information in the modified content identifies the subscriber.)
2. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
providing a digitized image of the requested content including digitized video frames;
and
15 inserting a digitized image identifying the subscriber into at least some of the digitized
video frames to provide the modified content.)
3. The method of claim 2, the method further comprising:
retrieving the requested content from a medium in an analog video format; and
20 digitizing the retrieved content to provide the digitized image.
4. The method of claim 2, the method further comprising retrieving the digitized image
from a digital storage medium.

5. The method of claim 2, the method further comprising:
converting the modified content from a digital format to an analog video format to
provide analog content; and
transmitting the analog content to the subscriber.

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6. A server for providing media content to a subscriber, the server comprising:
a communication port for receiving transmissions from a client process associated with
the subscriber, the received transmissions including a request for the transmission of the content;
circuitry for retrieving the requested content from a storage medium;
logic for associating the received request with encoded information identifying the
subscriber;
logic for combining the retrieved content with the encoded information to provide
modified content; and
a communication port for transmitting the modified content to the subscriber,
wherein the encoded information in the modified content to identify the subscriber.

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7. The server of claim 6, wherein the media content includes a digitized image of the
requested content including digitized video frames and the server further includes circuitry for
inserting a digitized image identifying the subscriber into at least some of the digitized video
frames to provide the modified content.

8. The server of claim 7, the server further comprising:

circuitry for retrieving the requested content from a medium in an analog video format;
and
circuitry for digitizing the retrieved content to provide the digitized video frames.

5 9. The server of claim 7, the server further comprising circuitry for retrieving the digitized
image from a digital storage medium.

10. The server of claim 7, the method further comprising:

circuitry for converting the modified content from a digital format to an analog video
format to provide analog content; and

circuitry for transmitting the analog content to the subscriber through an analog video
transmission medium.

11. A system for providing digitized media content to one or more subscribers, the system
comprising:

a client process associated with each subscriber for receiving subscriber inputs and
presenting the digitized content to the subscriber;

a client processor having a memory for storing digitized content for presentation to the
subscriber;

20 a server for transmitting selected digitized content to the client processor for storage in a
portion of the memory; and

an agent process associated with the server and hosted on the client processor for retrieval of the digitized content for presentation through the client process in response to requests of the client process,

wherein the client process is prevented from accessing the portion of memory independently of the agent process.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the digitized content stored in the portion of the memory is available for presentation to the subscriber for a subscription interval and is not available for presentation to the subscriber after the subscription interval.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the agent process removes the digitized content from the portion of memory when the subscription interval expires.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the client process is hosted on the client processor.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the client process is hosted on a client device which is distinct from the client processor, and wherein the client processor hosts a local server for providing content to the client process through a data network.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein the server provides the digitized content to the client processor through a data communication network including at a least a portion of a public data communication network.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the public data communication network includes the Internet.

5 18. A method of providing media content to one or more subscribers, the method comprising:

transmitting digitized content from a server to an agent process hosted on a client processor including a memory for storing data;

10 executing the agent process for storing the transmitted media content in a portion of the memory;

executing the agent process for retrieving the stored media content for presentation at one or more client processes associated with the one or more subscribers; and

15 inhibiting the client processes from accessing the portion of memory independently of the agent process.

20 19. The method claim 18, the method further comprising:

presenting the digitized content stored in the portion of the memory at the one or more client processes under control of the agent process upon request from the one or more client processes during a subscription interval; and

inhibiting presentation of the digitized content upon expiration of the subscription interval.

20. The method of claim 19, the method further comprising removing the digitized content from the portion of the memory upon expiration of the subscription interval.

21. The method of claim 18, the method further comprising hosting the client process
5 on the client processor.

22. The method of claim 18, the method further comprising:
hosting the client process a client device which is distinct from the client
processor; and

10 hosting a local server on the client processor for providing content to the client
processor through a data network.

23. The method of claim 18, the method further comprising transmitting the digitized
content from the server to the client processor through a data communication network including
at a least a portion of a public data communication network.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the public data communication network
includes the Internet.

20 25. A system for providing digitized media content to one or more subscribers, the
system comprising:

a client process associated with each subscriber for receiving subscriber inputs and
presenting the digitized content to the subscriber;

a client processor having a memory for storing digitized content for presentation to the subscriber;

a server for transmitting selected digitized content to the client processor for storage in a portion of the memory; and

5 an agent process associated with the server and hosted on the client processor for retrieval of the digitized content for presentation through the client process in response to requests of the client process for a subscription interval,

wherein the agent inhibits presentation of the digitized media content to the client process upon termination of the subscription interval.

10 26. The system of claim 25, wherein the agent process removes the stored digitized content from the memory upon termination of the subscription interval.

15 27. A method of providing on-line services from a service provider to a subscribing enterprise, the method comprising:

encoding on a non-volatile memory of a server appliance computer readable instructions for establishing an Intranet to enable communication among devices associated with the subscribing enterprise and for generating one or more enterprise pages for display in graphical user interfaces at the devices, at least one of the enterprise pages having selectable icons;

20 installing the server appliance at a premises of the subscribing enterprise; and
in response to selection of at least one of the icons at a graphical user interface,
establishing communication between the server appliance and a server of the service provider through a public data communication network to provide a data service.

28. The method of claim 27, the method further comprising in response to the selection of the icon, transmitting data from the server of the service provider to the server appliance including a menu for the selection of services.

28. The method of claim 27, the method further comprising in response to the selection of the icon, transmitting data from the server of the service provider to the server appliance including a menu for the selection of services.